“A plague a’ both your houses!”

Yesterday, at around midday, a quarrel aroused from a dispute between the Montagues and the Capulets. There was a man named Mercutio Escalus, a good friend of Romeo Montague that was tragically stabbed by Tybalt Capulet. It was hard to believe that in the middle of the day, in the streets of Verona a crime as serious as this occurred. What possessed these two young men to fight like this?

Everyone around the area is well aware of the feud between the two families, the Montagues and the Capulets. There truly is a great deal of hate between them. While Mercutio Escalus and Benvolio Montague walked along Tybalt Capulet and his friends approached them wanting to talk with one of them. Mercutio appeared annoyed and started provoking Tybalt until Romeo Montague came on the scene. Then Tybalt turned to Romeo and called him a “villain. Romeo wasn’t going to show his anger as Tybalt is the cousin of Juliet Capulet, his love. Tybalt continued to go after Romeo and told him to draw his sword. Romeo refused to fight him for reasons that Tybalt didn’t understand. That seemed to anger his friend, Mercutio and it was heard that he said if Romeo won’t fight you then I will. During the fight between Mercutio and Tybalt, Romeo through himself between them to stop it, but Tybalt stabbed Mercutio under Romeo’s arm. Tybalt and his friends ran off. Soon after that, Mercutio dies cursing the Montagues and the Caputlets. Just when you think things were going to calm down, Tybalt came back to face Romeo. Romeo was full of emotion and anger after his good friend was just killed. He drew his sword, fought and stabbed Tybalt in a crazy rage of revenge.

Romeo ran away urged by his friend Benvolio, because the Prince and local citizens along with the Montagues and Capulets were fast approaching. Benvolio told the Prince the story of the fight, emphasizing Romeo’s attempt to stop it and keep peace. After hearing this, Lady Capulet, which is Tybalt’s aunt, yelled out that Benevolio was only protecting the Montagues. She said, “He is a kinsman to the Montague; Affection makes him false, he speaks not true”. She wanted his, “LIFE”. Prince Escalus chose instead to banish Romeo from Verona. He said, “And for that offense, immediately, we do exile him hence”.

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